

Monongah, WV Coal & Community Heritage Interpretive Center Proposal

The Appalachian Teaching Project, sponsored by the Appalachian Regional Commission, provides funding to 15 schools throughout Appalachia to prepare proposals for projects that would potentially result in economic development in Appalachia. Fairmont State University has been participating in this project for the past 5 years. This is strictly a research and proposal development and is in no way associated with funding. As part of this project, students are compiling information about Monongah, West Virginia.

They are examining the heritage and culture of this small coal mining community to prepare a proposal for the development of a Coal & Community Heritage Interpretive Center with possible exhibits, photographs, artifacts, interpreters, educational programming, etc. This project is strictly a proposal and is being done independently of any organized community committee.

This survey will provide research data to prepare a proposal for a "Monongah, WV Coal and Community Heritage Interpretive Center". This proposal will include information about historical events and the story of coal & community related to Monongah.

Your participation in this survey is voluntary and your input will be compiled and presented in conjunction with all surveys submitted. If you choose to provide your name and contact information, we may contact you for additional input on the proposal, but we will not release your information to any third parties without your consent.

For more information on this project, you may contact The Frank & Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center at Fairmont State University at (304) 367-4403 or wvfolklife@fairmontstate.edu.

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Students

Dr. Judy P. Byers, and Mr. Noel W. Tenney
Academic Advisors

Monongah Survey

1. Do you now or have you ever lived in Monongah?
 Yes No

2. Do you believe that Monongah needs a Coal & Community Heritage Interpretive Center, a facility which tells the story of coal and its effects on Monongah?
 Yes No

3. What location would best serve as a Coal & Community Heritage Center?
 Our Lady of Pompeii Church (old facility)
 Empty bank building on Route 119
 Other specify: _____

4. Do you believe that there would be a positive economic impact upon the Monongah Community from a Coal & Community Heritage Interpretive Center?
 Yes No

5. What local sites should be included in the interpretive plan?
 Monument(s) Mine 63 Road Rails to Trails
 Church(s) specify: _____
 Cemetery specify: _____
 Other specify: _____

6. What kind of background should the employees/volunteers for the center have?
 Former coal miners
 Descendants of Monongah miners
 Local Individuals
 Anyone interested
 All of the above

7. Would you financially support the project?
 Yes No

8. Would you be interested in volunteering in a Heritage Interpretive Center?
 Yes No

9. Do you believe that the development of a Heritage Interpretive Center would enhance the image of Monongah?
 Yes No

Your comments are appreciated. You may provide your name and address if you would like to be contacted regarding this project.

Please deposit the completed survey in a survey drop box by Oct. 25, 2009 at one of the area locations. Please complete only 1 survey per person. Visit www.fairmontstate.edu/wvfolklife/default.asp and click on the Survey Link to print a copy of the survey. Survey may be mailed by Oct. 25, 2009 to: WV Folklife Center, 1201 Locust Ave., Ed #113, Fairmont, WV 26554.